

INTEGRATION OF DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 A Digital Signal Processor (DSP) is integrated within a network processor. The DSP is integrated as a core function and has an analog interface and/or a digital interface. The DSP may receive analog signals and convert them to digital signals which may undergo additional processing within the DSP. The output of the DSP may be routed by the network processor to physical layer devices. The DSP may also receive digital signals which may be processed by the DSP's specialized operations. The combination network processor and DSP may be easily programmed to implement specialized communication and data handling functions.

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